

CARRANZA "INVITES WITHDRAWAL"

(Continued From Page One.)
Text of Note.
The note, which is addressed to Sec-

retary Lansing, reads in part as follows:
"The Mexican government has just received advice that a group of American troops has crossed the frontier and penetrated Mexican territory and at present is near a place called El Pino, some seventy miles to the south of the frontier. This newly effected passage of troops without the

consent of the Mexican government places in grave danger the good relations an harmony which ought to exist between the governments of the United States and Mexico.

Urges U. S. to Explain.
"This government must consider this last act a violation of its sovereignty and thus asks in the most urgent manner that the Washington government consider with care the case and once for all define with exactitude the policy it intends to pursue with respect to the Mexican nation."

"To the end of making clearer the basis upon which the petition contained in the present note is founded this government will carefully state the facts which have occurred up to this time as a result of the incursion of a band on Columbus, N. M., captained by Francisco Villa, at dawn, March 9 last."

"The Mexican government sincerely lamenting the happening and with the idea of efficiently protecting the frontier, proposed that the governments of Mexico and the United States celebrate an agreement by which bandits might be unished. Furthermore, the Mexican government made this proposition guided by precedents prevailing in the treaty of 1870 and conceivably asked permission that Mexican forces might cross the American frontier in pursuit of bandits under the reciprocal condition that like permission would be granted the forces of the United States should a case similar to that Columbus be repeated at any other point along the frontier line. As a consequence of this proposition made in the Mexican note of March 10, the United States government through error and precipitation, thought that the good intention of the Mexican government was sufficient to authorize it to cross the frontier and without awaiting formal agreement ordered a large part of Americans to enter Mexico in pursuit of Villa and his party. Because of this act, the American government made most emphatic protestations that it was acting in good faith and that its only purpose in crossing the line was to pursue, capture or destroy the Villa bandits, and that the act did not signify an invasion of our territory nor an attempt to violate the sovereignty of Mexico, and that as soon as a result was shown by the expedition, the American troops would be withdrawn from Mexican territory."

Ignorant of Act.
"The Mexican government had no knowledge that American troops had crossed the border until March 17, and this came from private sources in El Paso. This government then directed a note to the American government stating that inasmuch as no formal agreement had been entered into between the two governments, the Americans could not be considered as authorized to send such an expedition."

U. S. Misinterprets.
"The Washington government acknowledged the existence of such an invasion, saying that it regretted the attitude of the Mexican government regarding the passage of troops across the frontier in pursuit of Villa, that it was done in the understanding that the former interchange of notes plain-

ly implied the consent of the Mexican government without further formalities."

"The government of the United States explained also that its attitude was taken in view of the necessity for rapid action and acknowledged its willingness to receive any suggestions of the Mexican government relative to a formal agreement for the crossing of the international line by forces of either country."

Reviews Conference.
"Both governments then hastened to define terms of an agreement, two projects of the Mexican government and two counter projects of the Washington government being exchanged. In discussing the project the Mexican government insisted strongly that the operation of troops in a foreign country must be limited as to the number of troops the class of arms and the territory occupied."

"The American government refused to agree on these points but in the last note presented to this government agreed to accept in part these limitations, nevertheless insisting that they be not applied to the Columbus expedition. This attitude of the American government caused the Mexican government to send a note under date of April 12, suspending negotiations over any agreement, in view of the fact that the American government demanded that the Columbus case should be excluded and requested the retirement of the American troops as they were in Mexico under no agreement and as a further reason because the Villa bandits had been dispersed and reduced to impotency."

"Meanwhile, the American government did not answer the note of April 12, nor withdraw the troops and it was found convenient by other countries that a convention of military aspects of the situation and ascertain if by this road it were possible to arrive at a satisfactory solution which on Mexico's part consisted in the retirement of the American troops from its territory."

"To this effect," the military officers conferred at Juarez and El Paso on the part of the American government, Generals Scott and Funston and on the part of Mexico the secretary of war and the navy, General Obregon, who held a series of conferences in a spirit of frank cordiality."

The note states that the conference collected data on the frontier situation and prepared a memorandum for their respective governments in which General Scott directed that the disposal of the Villa bandits be completed and therefore the American government had decided to begin withdrawal of its troops under the promise that the Mexican government could endeavor to maintain an effective guard against new incursion."

"The de facto government, says the note, could not approve the agreement because it contained a stipulation that the withdrawal could be suspended should another incursion serve to change the belief of the Washington government in the ability of the Mexican government to protect the frontier." This change was unsatisfactory, the note adds, because evacuation of its territory was a question affecting the sovereignty of Mexico which should at no time be subjected to the discretion of the American government, and for the further reason that it might lend a "certain color of legality" to the indefinite stay of American troops in Mexico in the event of another raid.

Order Resistance.
The raid on Glenn Springs and Boquillas is then recalled as having occurred during the border conference. Fearing a new expedition to the facts government, says, General Obregon was instructed to notify the United States "that the crossing of American soldiers on this new account would not be permitted and that orders had been given to all Mexican commanders on the frontier to prevent it."

Says Scott Fitted.
The note declares that General Scott and Funston then assured General Obregon that no pursuit of the Boquillas raiders had been ordered, and that no more American soldiers would enter Mexican territory. "This assurance," it adds, "was reiterated by General Scott himself in a later private conversation with Juan Nafail Amador, sub-secretary of foreign affairs, who had had opportunity to take part in the conferences."

Because of the possibility of other raids, General Obregon then suggested to the American officers a plan of distribution of troops along the border by both governments to prevent such incidents, the note says, thus showing not only the good faith of the de facto government, but also its frank willingness to arrive at an effective cooperation."

General Scott insisted on the form of memorandum and the conference adjourned leaving the minister to advance other means of arriving at an agreement."

The Mexican government, it is declared, cannot assume that the United States government has committed an error a second time in ordering the crossing with the consent of the government of Mexico, or that the commander of the American troops acted without due authorization from his government."

Deems It "Invasion."
"This latter act of the American forces causes new complications for the Mexican government, increasing the difficulties of finding a satisfactory solution and the tenseness of the international situation."

Wants Withdrawal Now.
The Mexican government cannot consider this last incident except as an invasion of our territory and it is our duty to request the American government to order the immediate withdrawal of these forces and to abstain from sending another expedition of similar nature."

It adds: "Since American troops are physically unable to protect the line on the American side, the difficulties of the Mexican government should be appreciated. Every possible effort in that direction had been made, it says, and insists that raids by irresponsible outlaws should call for 'reciprocal preparation and resolution to adopt a combined defense, but never a cause for American authorities to invade our national territory."

It refers to the Columbus expedition as "interned in the state of Chihuahua and also upon its withdrawal, adding: **Threatens Fight.**

"The Mexican government under stands that in the face of the refusal of the American government to withdraw the advance forces, it has no other reason than to prepare the defense of its territory by means of arms; but it understands at the same time its duty to avoid as far as possible an armed conflict between the two countries and acting in accordance with the treaty of February, 1848, it considers it its duty to resort to all means of a peaceful character to find a solution of the international conflict in which these countries are involved."

The clash at Parral is asserted to have been due to the secrecy with which the American military authorities surrounded their operations."

"The Columbus expedition," it says, "has carried into effect without any harmony but on the contrary, under a spirit of distrust of our authorities, as our cooperation was not only suspected. As evidence of this distrust the note cites the fact that the expedition included artillery and infantry, the use of which 'cannot be explained in any other way which a precaution against probable attack on the part of the Mexican forces.' The United States, it is asserted, now keeps its troops its troops idle in Mexico rather than post them on the American side of the line."

"As a matter of fact what could the great number of diplomatic representations made under the pretext of pro-

tecting American interests in Mexico and which are constantly embarrassing the government in its efforts to reestablish a constitutional government." The note cites "the decided support" given at one time by General Scott and the State Department which it says prolonged war many months,

and the continued assistance rendered by American Catholic clergymen to their Mexican brothers who are, it is charged, constantly working against the constitutional government." The activities of the "American interventionist press and business men" are also referred to.

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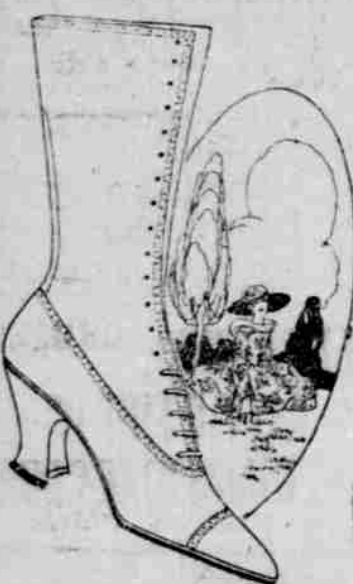
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